

THE REHEARSAL.

- 1. The *Observer* Complains, Cries out for Help, and Loses the *Lawrel*.
- 2. The *Convention* and I against the *Observer*.
- 3. He *Pawns* the *Queen* and the *Revolution* against me.
- 4. He's got on the wrong side the *Hedge*.
- 5. He makes the *Queen* an *Usurper* upon her *Father*, after he was *Dead*. And Arraigns the *Act* of *Succession*.
- 6. It was *Impossible* the *Revolution* shou'd *Re-Affert* *Coercion*.
- 7. He *Arraigns* the *Government* for *Vexatious* and *Groundless* *Suits*, against *Honest Whiggs*.

SATURDAY, November 13. 1768.

(1.) *Country-man*. **G**ird on your Armour Close, *Master*, for the *Observer* is Cruel Angry, and has vow'd *Revenge*! He says in his of the 3. *Instant*, *Num.* 75. I assure you that I will speak both to such *Lords* and *Commons* as I have the *Honour* to know.— That is, to have the *Parliament* take notice of you.

Rehearsal. That would be a Great *Honour* to me, that I should do any thing to *Deserve* the *Notice* of the *Parliament*?

But, *Country-man*, in the *Rhetorick-School* which you have seen at *Billings-Gate*, the *Law* is, That whoever *Cries* first, or *Runs* away, or *Calls* for *Help*, is *Adjudg'd* to be *Worst*, and *Loses* the *Lawrel*. And the *Observer* has done all these. He now *Repent*s with a *Quart-Pot* (a *Dull Rogue*) for want of *Wit*.— T'other *Day* he made me a *Sampson*, and now he wou'd bring the *Mob* upon me. But I shall *Renze*, and *Exalt* my *Jaw-Bone*!

Country-m. Your *Ast* can't *Stir*. For he has *Loaded* her with *Passive-Obedience* on the one *Side*, and *Non-Resistance* on the o'ther! *Divided* betwixt *Grief* and *Sorrow*?

(2.) *Rehears*. You *Joke* him purely, *Country-man*. But how will you *Defend* your *Master*? He says, *Other People* may think what they please, but to me it seems to *Expose* our *Nation* to be a *Jest* to all *Europe*.— That is, that the *Revolution* should not be *Coercion*.

Country-m. That's a *Jest* with all my *Heart*! Wou'd that make it a *Jest* to *Europe*? It wou'd be the greatest *Vindication* of it that is possible, if you cou'd make it out. For is ther any *Prince* or *State* in *Europe* that *Love* *Coercion* over *Themselves*? Let the *Observer* try his hand, and see if he can *Preach* the

Doctrin of *Coercion* in any *Country* of *Europe* (except *Poland*) with that *Freedom* he do's here!

Rehears. I have made it out, if the *Convention* has made it out. For the *Observer* (I thank him) has furnish'd me with the *Debates*, which speak as *Plain* as *English* words can speak, That by *Abdication* they did not mean *Coercion*, but a *Free* and *Voluntary Renouncing*. And he cannot *Confute* me, without *Confuting* the *Convention* too. Now he must see whether the *Parliament* will *Justify* Me, and the *Convention*, or the *Observer* against 'S both.

(3.) *Country-m*. He's resolv'd to *Try*, and *Home* too! For he says, That if the *Revolution* was not founded upon the *Coercive Power*, and did not *Re-Affert* it; The plain *English* of it is, That her *Majesty* was then a *Rebel* against her *Father*, is since an *Usurper*, that the *Protestant Succession* is founded upon *Rebellion* and *Usurpation*, and that all the *Revolution-men* in *Britain* and *Ireland*, and the *Dominions* thereto belonging, have *Forfeited* their *Lives*; and that there wants nothing but an *Executioner* to tie them up all at once.

Rehears. This is *Bold* indeed! It is *Striking* *Home* with a *Witness*! I'm almost *Afraid* while you *Repeat* his *Words*, because they come out of your *Mouth*?

But, *Mr. Observer*, the plain *English* of it is, That you have here *Run* your self into an *Outragious Treason*, or, at least a *Terrible Insolence*, That her *Majesty* must be a *Rebel* and an *Usurper*, and all the *Revolution-Men* to be *Ty'd up*, if your *Arguments* for *Coercion* will not *Hold*! This was too *Great* a *Pawn* for you to *Stake*, upon all the *Wit* in your *Head*!

And I'll *Appeal* to Every man in *England* (but a *Whigg*) whether it wou'd not be more *Honour* and *Security* to the *Revolution*,

if it can be sav'd from being a *Coercion*, than if it be put upon that Foot? Which of these two ways will it look Liker a *Rebellion*?

(4.) *Country-m.* The *Observer* knows that. Therefor he wou'd have it *Coercion*, that it might be a *Rebellion*. For no *Revolution* that is not *Such* will Please a *Whigg*.

Upon my Word, Mr. *Observer*, you have got on the Wrong side o'th' *Hedge*. My *Master* has fairly, put the *Labouring Oar* upon you. You thought you had the *Revolution* to Fight with against him for *Coercion*. And he has Turn'd the *Revolution* upon you, and brought you to Oppose it, and call it a *Rebellion*! How come you to be so Drawn in?

(5.) *Rehears.* I have more to say to him yet. He has made the *Queen* a *Rebel* against her *Father*. (that is, if his beloved *Coercion* will not be Allow'd) but how do's he Make her an *Usurper* too? For her *Father* was Dead before she came to the *Crown*.

Country-m. The *Observer* now must try his *Wis* to get off, if ever he did it in his Life! Here's *Grief* in one Hand, and *Sorrow* in the other! For he must either own himself a *Blockhead*, to say the *Queen* did *Usurp* upon her *Father* after he was Dead Or else, he must tell upon whom she did *Usurp*— And he must support his *Pretender* (whoever it is) against our *Act* of *Succession*. Or else he cannot make the *Queen* an *Usurper* any Manner of way. And will he Question the *Legality* of our *Parliaments*? Or say, they cou'd not Limit the *Succession*? Or do's he think there can be no Lawful *Succession*, but what is Founded upon *Coercion*? I know this is the *Succession* the *Whiggs* love best, Pursuant to their Old Maxim, *The Worse Tittle the better King*.

But I'm Amaz'd, *Master*, what shou'd Provoke the *Observer* to vent all this *Treason*!

Rehears. He tells you himself, just before the Words I quoted, which he Introduces thus, where he says of you,

"He tells me in his last, that I am *Sub-Miseri-*
"cordia, that is, at the Mercy of the Law,
"and there wants Nothing but Execution
"to make me suffer as a Traitor, for say-
"ing, That the *Revolution* was founded
"upon the *Coercive Power*, and Re-Assert-
"ed it. The plain English of which is,
"That her Majesty was then a *Rebel* &c
"as before Quoted.

(6.) *Country-m.* Here's a Consequence indeed! That if he was *Sub-Miseri-cordia*, therefor the *Queen* and all the *Revolution* must come in for a *Snak*! He loves good Company. They'r much Oblig'd to him! Let him tell his *Lords* and *Commons* this whom he has the Honour to know, and see how they approve of his *Modersty*?

But I'll Clinch the *Nail* faster yet. For you have shew'd, that there is no Law in England which Asserts *Coercion*. And if none Asserts it, then the *Revolution* cou'd not Re-Assert it. But it did neither Assert nor Re-Assert it. You have Provok'd the *Observer* to shew any such *Act* of *Parliament* since the *Revolution*, and he Cannot. And till he can do it, he is Guilty (by his own Confession) of calling the *Queen* a *Rebel* and an *Usurper*.

Rehears. Do not Pursue him so Close, *Country-man*, you'll make him save somebody a *Labour*.—

(7.) *Country-m.* Then I'll go to *Lesser Matters*, only his *Arraigning* the *Government* for Prosecuting the *Assertors* of *Coercion*, as his *Worthy Predecessor* &c. and he's something Afraid of Himself. His words are, *Those who Write for our Fundamental Liberties* (that is, *Coercion*) *Actually* have been Prosecuted with *Vexatious* and *Groundless Suits*, and we still Threaten'd with the like Treatment. Is it not perfectly *Vexatious* and *Groundless* to Prosecute *Whiggs* for Asserting their *Foundamental Liberty*, to *Rebel* and *Coerce* their *Kings* and *Queens*? And then to think to shelter themselves under the *Revolution*, as if That gave Countenance to their *Principles*! And they are stark *Mad* and *Rave* because you have Disappointed them, and Drove them out of this *Asslum* which they thought *Impregnable*?

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